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19 MS. GROSS: My name is Lois Gross and I drove
20 down today with a friend from Las Vegas. I don't know
21 anything about the science of the nuclear repository in
22 Yucca Mountain. But I do have a variety of small
23 questions that eat away in my mind and I hope there is
24 somebody who can satisfactory answer them.

25 I don't know if you remember a number of

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1 years ago, we had nuclear wastes that we wanted to put
2 on the Marianna Islands. They were going to pay them a
3 substantial sum of money to take this waste and they
4 were tickled pink. They wanted the money and didn't
5 mind the waste. The environmentalists and a number of
6 other groups just raised cane. How can you do such a
7 terrible thing to those poor unsuspecting people? And
8 all of that stuff is going to endanger them and travel
9 over the oceans and if anything happens to the ship,
10 the oceans are going to be full of nuclear waste and
11 the Marianna Islands didn't have to take that. They
12 wanted the money they were going to get.

13 But we didn't send it there. A number of
14 years before they found a satisfactory repository in

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15 Alaska and they have been fighting tooth and nail to
16 have the repository here in Yucca Mountain. They have
17 a perfectly satisfactory repository in salt mines in
18 Louisiana. They're under down under the ground.
19 They've been there for a long, long time. They're
20 safe. It's an excellent repository and the people of
21 Louisiana don't want it.

22 So my question is: Are we less valuable than
23 the people of Louisiana and Alaska and the Marianna
24 Islands? And why is it that we can't get our message
25 through that we don't want this thing? Maybe we're not
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1 vocal enough.

2 I have come in the past few years to the
3 conclusion that everything I've been hearing about you
4 get farther with honey than vinegar is wrong. I think
5 you get farther with vinegar than honey and I think we
6 have to yell and scream and be unpleasant, maybe ugly
7 Americans to get the point across and maybe we don't
8 have to have it right here in our backyard either.

9 I had a class last week at UNLV and we had a
10 guest speaker who is an official of some sort. I don't
11 remember exactly what his qualifications are. But he

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12 came from Yucca Mountain. He works for them. And he
13 came to tell us how wonderful it is and how safe it is
14 and how the percentages of danger were so low. And I
15 simply said to him, "There is a zero percentage of
16 danger if we don't have it there." And he didn't have
17 an answer for me.

18 And so I'm just saying to you that you can't
19 give up. I petitioned. I worked for years and we
20 haven't won yet. I'm getting petitions out to have
21 English as the official language of Nevada, the
22 official language of the country. Not the only
23 language. People are certainly welcome to speak any
24 language they want. Haven't gotten there yet, but we
25 don't give up.

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1 And you cannot give up with this either. I
2 said to the man who came to UNLV, what happens if any
3 of this stuff leaks, which shows you how little I know?
4 He said, it can't leak, it's a solid. I said, what
5 happens if some terrorist drives a truck through the
6 opening and just kills himself -- he doesn't care what
7 happens to him -- and there is a tremendous explosion
8 and some little pieces or particles or shards of this

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9 stuff gets scattered around outside and it rains, what
10 happens then to the ground and the ground water? He
11 said, "Gee, you know, I never thought of that."
12 And I said to myself, we have to think of all
13 these things and we have to come from many different
14 directions for many different reasons. I've been
15 passing out a flyer here that refers to Secretary
16 Abraham, used to be Senator Abraham and, you read the
17 flyer or you'll find some up at the table. Take one
18 home. Pass it along. And the likelihood of terrorist
19 activity, which is increased by Section 245i, which you
20 probably aren't familiar with. Very briefly, that
21 section is part of the 1996 Amnesty Bill that amnesty,
22 all of those illegal aliens, and this section says if
23 you're in this country and you come in legally and you
24 are working or in school and you just don't renew your
25 visa, you become illegal. And thousands and thousands

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1 of people have done this and they just disappear into
2 the country. We don't know where they are. A lot of
3 terrorists have done this. And 245i has come up for
4 renewal. Bush renewed it temporarily in February and
5 it's coming up. The vote was supposed to be taken on

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6 September 11th and they postponed it.

7 MODERATOR BROWN: You have a minute left.

8 MS. GROSS: I just want to say to you,

9 Section 245i says that if you are in this country

10 illegally and you go to the I.N.S. with a little fine

11 because you've been illegal and they don't think too

12 much about that and you pay \$1,000, you can be made

13 permanently a legal resident in this country with no

14 background check. They don't know who you are. And

15 we're inviting terrorists in and any kind of terrorist

16 activity is a likelihood for Yucca Mountain. So you

17 have to look at it from many different angles.

18 Thank you.